

**Amendment To The Abstract:**

Please replace paragraph [0036] with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] A mechanical handle switch assembly (14) ("switch assembly") is provided for actuating a vehicle-based system (12). The switch assembly (14) includes a door handle mechanism (28), which is coupled to a vehicle door (26) and utilized for actuation by a user. This door handle mechanism (28) is movable a predetermined travel distance, which includes a switch-triggering distance for actuating the vehicle-based system (12) and an unlatching distance for unlatching the vehicle door (26). The door handle mechanism (28) engages ~~is coupled to~~ a drive train mechanism (34) and is utilized for actuating the drive train mechanism (34). The drive train mechanism (34) is operatively coupled to a switch device (18) for selectively closing the switch device (18) and actuating the vehicle-based system (12).